

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7137

BILL NUMBER: HB 1381

DATE PREPARED: Jan 5, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Credit Time.

FISCAL ANALYST: Mark Goodpaster

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill prohibits the awarding of credit time for a diploma or degree if an incarcerated person has already received credit time for an equivalent diploma or degree.

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Under this bill, offenders who have received credit for more than one diploma or degree prior to July 1, 2002, would be permitted to retain these additional credits. Since 1993, less than 1% of all offenders enrolled in educational programs in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities earned additional credit time for completing the requirements for the same diploma or degree more than once. Consequently, this bill would have almost no effect on the need for future beds in DOC facilities.

Background: Under current law, offenders may receive additional credit time from their length of stay in DOC facilities. The following table shows the amount of credit time that can be earned.

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Amount of Credit Time</u>
General Education Developmental Degree (GED)	six months
High School Diploma	one year
Associate's Degree	one year
Bachelor's Degree	two years

The maximum amount of credit time that an offender may earn from educational degrees is the lesser of four years or one third of the person's total applicable credit time.

The Department of Correction reports that since 1993, less than 1% of offenders enrolled in educational programs received additional credit time by earning more than one degree or diploma. 1993 is when the education credit time statute was first enacted.

Diploma/Degree	Offenders Receiving Credit for Duplicate Degree or Diploma	Offenders Receiving a Degree or Diploma	Percent of Offenders Receiving More Than One Degree or Diploma
GED	60	9,777	0.61%
High School Diploma	1	758	0.13%
Associates Degree	34	1,210	2.81%
Bachelors Degree	<u>4</u>	<u>306</u>	1.31%
Total	<u>99</u>	<u>12,051</u>	0.82%

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Department of Correction.